

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In one embodiment, a method and apparatus increases a bit load of a multicarrier system comprising a channel having a plurality of subchannels. A bit load is determined for at least one subchannel based on a target symbol error rate  $\epsilon_s$ , a maximum number of symbol errors that can be corrected  $t$ , a number of symbols in an information field  $K$ , and a maximum number of transmissions  $k$ , and a number of bits per subchannel. The maximum number of symbol errors  $t$ , the number of symbols in the information field  $K$  and the maximum number of transmissions  $k$ , is selected such that a net coding gain is increased. In another embodiment, a method determines data flow for a channel having a plurality of subchannels in a multi-carrier system.